

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 KHARTO 00958 041248Z
ACTION AF-04

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 NEA-07 INR-05 CIAE-00 NSAE-00
DODE-00 NSC-05 PM-03 PA-01 SP-02 ACDA-10 SSM-01
IO-06 SSO-00 /059 W
-----117202 041303Z /14

P R 041201Z MAR 78
FM AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 6709
INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO
AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

S E C R E T KHARTOUM 0958

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: XGDS-4
TAGS: PEPR, MASS, SU, SA, LY
SUBJ: SUDAN-SAUDI RELATIONS

1. THIS MORNING, MARCH 4, MINSTATE FOR PRESIDENTIAL AFFAIRS DR. BAHA-AL-DIN IDRIS GAVE ME SHORT BRIEFING ON PRESIDENT NIMEIRI'S LATE FEBRUARY VISIT TO SAUDI ARABIA.
2. SAUDIS EXPRESSED CONCERN RE APPARENT RAPID IMPROVEMENT IN SUDAN-LIBYAN RELATIONS. NIMEIRI HAD TOLD SAUDIS THAT HIS SOLE OBJECTIVE IN LIBYA WAS TO FACILITATE RETURN TO SUDAN OF ANSAR DISSIDENTS. NIMEIRI HAD ADDED THAT SUDANESE FIRST VP ABUL QASSIM HAD EXCEEDED HIS INSTRUCTIONS IN SOME OF HIS ACTIONS AND STATEMENTS IN LIBYA. NIMEIRI ASSURED SAUDIS THAT HE HAD CALLED ABUL QASSIM TO TASK AND THAT HE, NIMEIRI WOULD PERSONALLY HANDLE LIBYAN RELATIONSHIP IN FUTURE.
3. SAUDIS HAD EXPRESSED GREAT CONCERN OVER DEVELOPMENTS IN HORN OF AFRICA AND SOUGHT NIMEIRI'S VIEWS. ACCORDING
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TO BAHA-AL-DIN, SAUDIS LOOK TO NIMEIRI FOR GUIDANCE ON DEVELOPMENTS IN ERITREA AND OGADEN. SAUDIS ALSO COMPLAINED ABOUT AMERICAN CONSTRAINTS ON THEIR ABILITY TO TRANSFER AMERICAN-ORIGIN ARMS TO SOMALIA.

4. NIMEIRI TOLD SAUDIS THAT SUDAN AND THE U.S. WERE QUIETLY KEEPING IN CLOSE TOUCH ABOUT THE HORN. HE SAID THAT SUDAN AGREED WITH PRACTICALLY THE WHOLE OF

U.S. POLICY AND PERCEPTIONS ABOUT THE SITUATION THERE.
NIMEIRI STRESSED TO SAUDIS IMPORTANCE OF AN UNDERTAKING
BY SIAD BARRE TO WITHDRAW HIS FORCES FROM OGADEN. AS
LONG AS THIS WAS NOT FORTHCOMING, MOST OF AFRICA
CONSIDERED SOMALIA AN AGGRESSOR.

5. NIMEIRI HAD BRIEFED SAUDIS ON SUDAN'S DEFENSIVE
NEEDS AND PLANS TO IMPLEMENT U.S. SURVEY TEAM RECOM-
MENDATIONS. SAUDIS ASKED FOR A COPY OF SURVEY TEAM REPORT
TO ASSIST IN THEIR LONG TERM PLANNING OF FINANCIAL SUP-
PORT FOR DEFENSE EFFORT. NIMEIRI HAD NOT FURNISHED THEM
WITH COPY BUT HAD BRIEFED THEM EXTENSIVELY ON ITS RECOM-
MENDATIONS.

6. BAHA-AL-DIN SAID THAT NIMEIRI WOULD PROBABLY BE
ASKING TO SEE ME WITHIN THE NEXT WEEK OR SO TO DISCUSS THE
ABOVE MATTERS IN GREATER DETAIL.
BERGUS

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NNN

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